

Daikon

Raphanus sativus var. *longipinnatus* · Brassica family

DIFFICULTY Easy
TYPE Annual, direct sown
MATURITY 50–70 days



SUN
Full–part sun



WATER
Consistent



SOIL PH
6.0–7.0



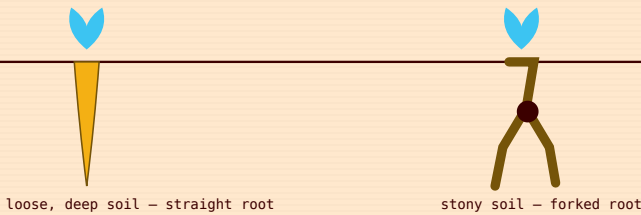
SPACING
15cm × 30cm



DEPTH
1–2cm

01 A long, deep root

Daikon roots can reach 30–40cm long, so deep, loose, stone-free soil matters even more than for standard radish — raised beds work well.



02 Planting

METHOD	Direct sow into deeply worked soil.
SOIL	Deep, loose, stone-free.
TIMING	Sow in autumn for the best roots; can bolt if sown in warming spring.

Planting timing varies significantly by Australian climate zone. Set your zone above (or use the Find My Climate Zone tool) for guidance tailored to your own area.

04 Problems

- **Forking** — stony or compacted soil; dig deep before sowing.
- **Flea beetle** — holes in leaves; net young plants.
- **Bolting** — warm weather; sow in the cooler season.
- **Splitting** — irregular watering.

03 Growing care

- Thin early to avoid forked roots.
- Keep soil consistently moist for even growth.
- Mulch to suppress weeds around the long taproot.
- Harvest before hot weather triggers bolting.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Shoulders reach 5–6cm across at soil surface.
METHOD	Loosen soil deeply, then pull straight up.
CURING	None needed.
STORAGE	Fridge crisper, several weeks; also good pickled.
PRESERVING	See Root Cellaring (cool, dark storage without processing) for ways to keep a harvest surplus.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Peas Lettuce	Other brassicas nearby	Rotate brassicas on a 3–4 year cycle.